Amendments

In the Claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) A tinnitus masker/suppressor, comprising:

an upper audio frequency source configured to output at least one upper audio frequency;

an output unit connected to the upper audio frequency source and configured to convert the upper audio frequency to an output signal to be provided to the patient via air conduction; and

an amplifier and power supply unit connected between the ~~ultrasound unit~~ upper audio frequency source and the output unit and configured to control an amplitude level of the at least one upper audio frequency to be no more than 20 dB greater than a threshold level of sound for the person,

wherein the output signal is used to mask or suppress the tinnitus.

3. (Previously Presented) The tinnitus masker/suppressor according to claim 4, wherein the at least one upper audio frequency is a frequency of between 10 kHz and 19.9 kHz.

4. (Original) The tinnitus masker/suppressor according to claim 2, wherein the at least one upper audio frequency is swept over a range of frequencies centered at the at least one upper audio frequency.

5. (Canceled).

6 - 7. (Canceled).

8. (Original) A method for treating tinnitus, comprising:

a) mixing an input sound signal with an upper audio frequency signal, to obtain a mixed signal;

b) recording the mixed signal onto a recording medium; and

c) treating a patient by providing the mixed signal to the patient using the recording medium, by way of air conduction.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

d) mixing an ultrasound frequency signal with the mixed signal, to obtain a second mixed signal, wherein the second mixed signal is recorded onto the recording medium and provided to the patient to treat the patient.

10 - 13. (Canceled).

14. (Original) A method of suppressing tinnitus, comprising:

a) providing music by way of a first input;

b) providing at least one tone within a range of from 10 kHz to 20 kHz;

c) multiplying the music with the at least one tone to provide a tinnitus treatment signal; and

d) recording the tinnitus treatment signal onto a recording medium, for playback at a later time, so as to treat a patient by playing the tinnitus treatment signal from the recording medium.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the recording medium is a compact disk.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the recording medium is an analog player.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the recording medium is a digital player.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the at least one tone is noise within a range of from 10 kHz to 20 kHz.

19. (New) A method of masking tinnitus, comprising the steps of:

a) providing ultrasound noise by way of an ultrasound unit;

b) modulating the amplitude of the ultrasound noise with a low audio frequency to thereby provide an audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound noise with a low frequency periodicity; and

c) providing the audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound noise to a head of a patient,

wherein the audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound noise masks tinnitus for the patient.

20. (New). The method according to claim 19, wherein the ultrasound noise is noise within a range of from 20 kHz to 200 kHz.

21. (New). The method according to claim 19, wherein the ultrasound noise is noise within a range of from 10 kHz to 200 kHz.

22. (New). The method according to claim 19, wherein the ultrasound noise is noise within a range of from 200 kHz to 5 MHz.

23. (New). A method of examining a patient in order to determine an audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound treatment for that patient so as to mask tinnitus for the patient, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of ultrasound frequency tones, in sequence, to the patient, to determine an optimum ultrasound frequency for the patient;

modulating the optimum ultrasound frequency with a variable low audio frequency to provide an audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound; and

varying the low audio frequency used to modulate the determined optimum ultrasound frequency to determine an optimum audio modulating frequency for producing an audio frequency amplitude modulated ultrasound that is optimum for the patient with respect to ultrasound tinnitus masking.

24. (New) A tinnitus masker, comprising:

a means for outputting at least one ultrasound frequency;

a means for modulating the at least one ultrasound frequency with a low audio frequency, said means for modulating being connected to said means for outputting; and

a means for converting the at least one pulsed ultrasound frequency to a vibration connected to said means for pulsing;

wherein said means for converting is adapted to be coupled to a person who experiences tinnitus in order to provide a vibration within a brain of the person to thereby mask the tinnitus.

25. (New). A method of inhibiting tinnitus, comprising the steps of:

providing ultrasound noise or tone by way of an ultrasound unit, wherein said noise or tone is amplitude modulated at an audio frequency; and

providing the ultrasound noise or tone to skin of a head or neck of a patient, wherein the ultrasound noise or tone inhibits tinnitus for the patient.

26. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the low audio frequency used to modulate the ultrasound noise is between approximately 1 Hz and approximately 50 Hz.

27. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein the low audio frequency used to modulate the ultrasound noise is between approximately 1 Hz and approximately 50 Hz.

28. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the low audio frequency used to modulate the ultrasound noise is between approximately 1 Hz and approximately 50 Hz.

29. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the low audio frequency used to modulate the ultrasound noise is between approximately 1 Hz and approximately 50 Hz.